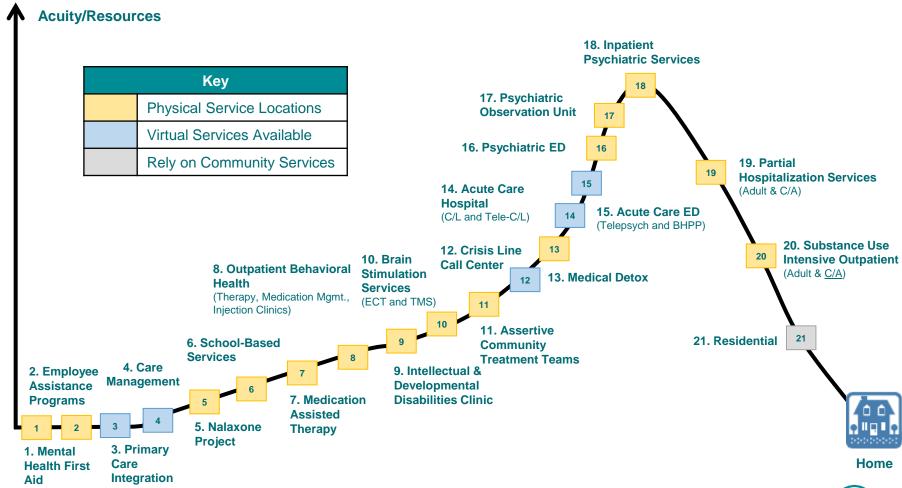


### Virtual Behavioral Health Services

Wayne Sparks, M.D., Senior Medical Director of Behavioral Health Manuel Castro, M.D., Medical Director of Behavioral Health Integration

03/18/2021

### The Behavioral Health Service Line Continuum



## Virtual Footprint in North Carolina



Currently providing telepsychiatry consults in 22 Atrium EDs and 9 IP units



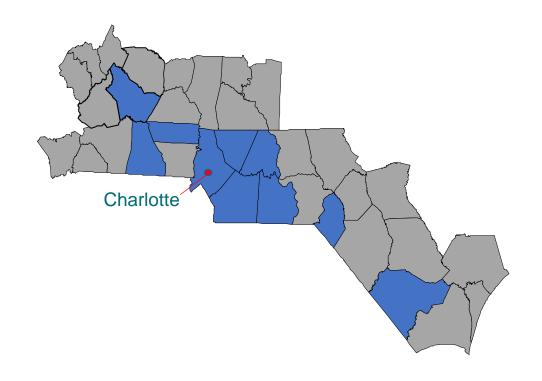
BHPP places patients from 23 EDs as well as any IP unit we provide CL coverage (11)



BHPP currently manages beds for **9** AH BH units in Charlotte and surrounding areas



VPN covers Acute care EDs, 12 hours a day



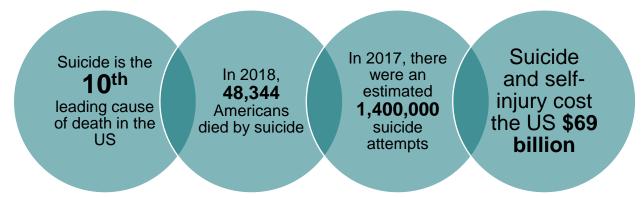
Patient Placement: 11.5 FTE
Telepsychiatry: 12.9 FTE

Provider: ~13 FTE

To serve a large geographical area 24 hours a day

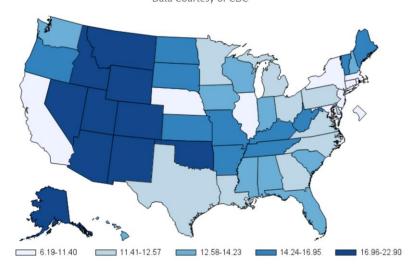


### Suicide in the United States



Suicide Rates in the United States (by state; per 100,000; average 2008-2014)

Data Courtesy of CDC



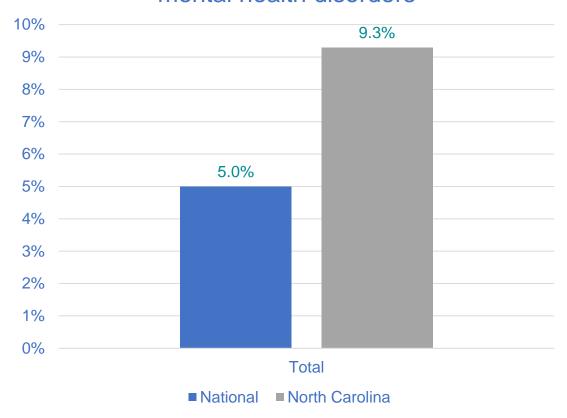
Suicide rates have increased since COVID 19 – according to the CDC, more than twice as many adults (11%) reported suicidal ideation in June of this year compared to 2018 (4%). Isolation and fear have increased anxiety, depression and substance abuse across the country.

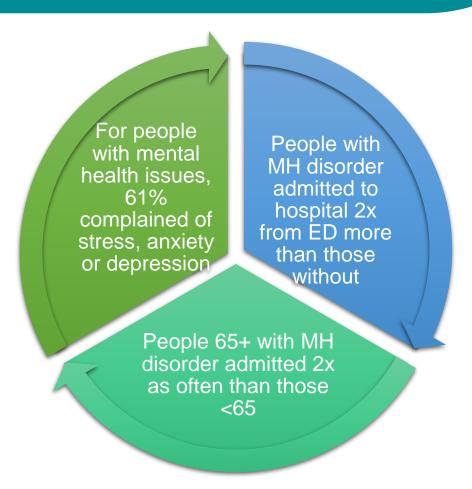




## CDC study of rates of ED visits in N.C.

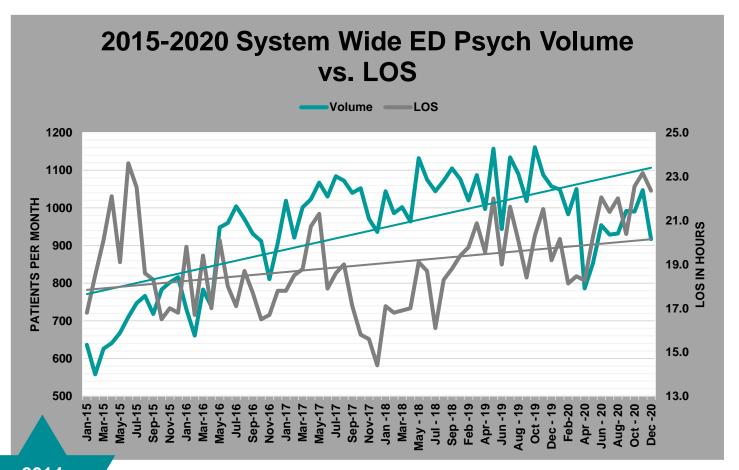
### Percentage of ED Visits related to mental health disorders







## **Emergency Department Telepsychiatry**

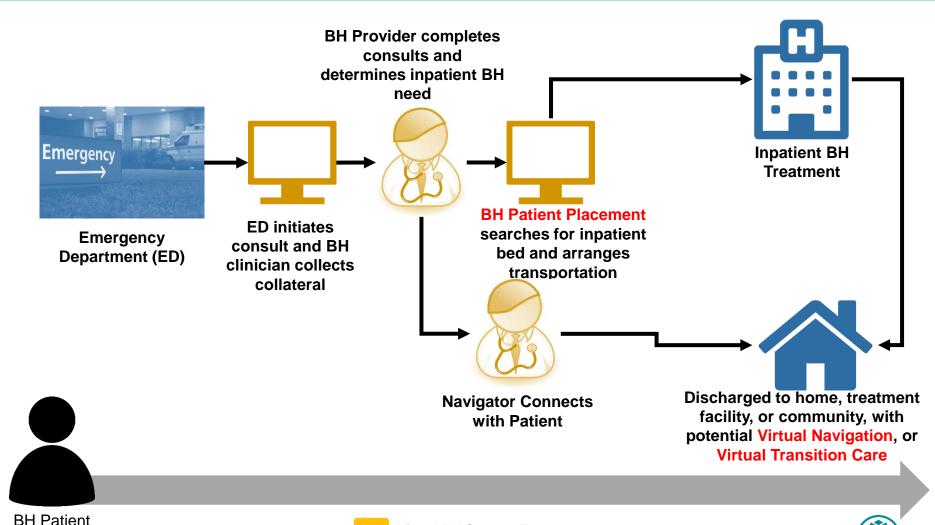


- Services provided
   24 hours a day to
   23 emergency
   departments
  - 1000 monthly visits



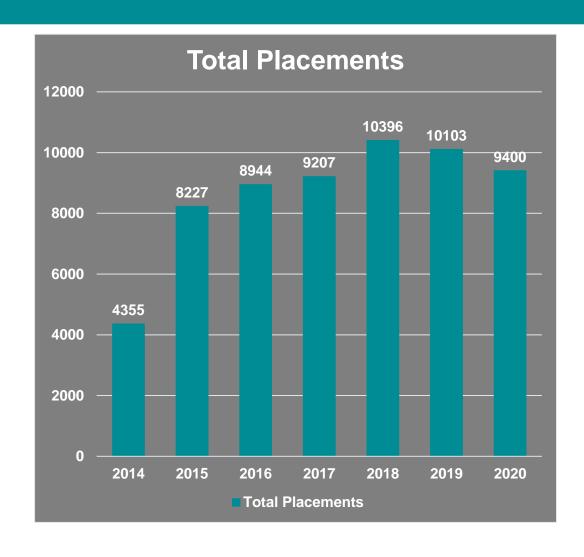


# **Emergency Department Telepsychiatry Process**





# Patient Placement and Bed Management



Bachelor Level Admission Transfer Coordinators/ RNs work 24/7

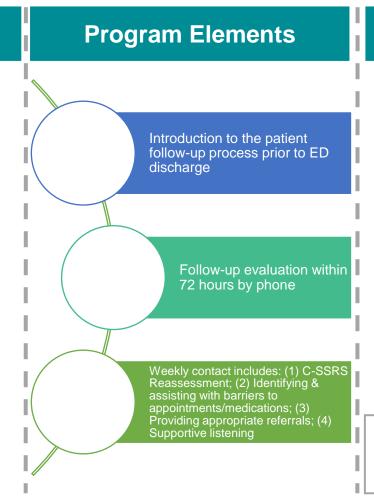
Placements based on clinical and exclusionary criteria

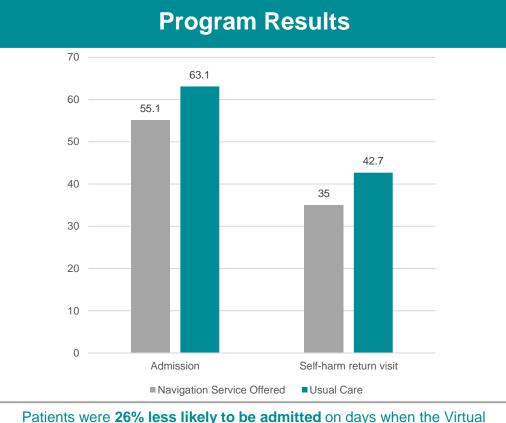
Scope focused on locating and allocating appropriate Psych Beds



# Virtual Patient Navigation







Patient Navigator was available

Odds Ratio 0.74 (0.54-1.02)

And had a significant decrease in return visits for self-harm within 30 days



# Virtual Behavioral Health Integration: Overview

### The vBHI Care Model **PCP** Consulting **BHP/Care Patient Psychiatrist Manager** Other **Additional Clinic** Behavioral Resources Health Outside **Substance Treatment, Vocational** Resources Rehabilitation, CMHC, **Other Community Resources Virtual BH Support Team**

#### **The Team**

#### **Behavioral Health Professional**

LCSW/LPC, Psych RN

#### **Health Coach**

- Bachelor level with two years' experience
- Obtain Health Coach Certification within 1 year of hire date

#### **Provider**

- Adult Psychiatrist
- Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist
- Nurse Practitioner

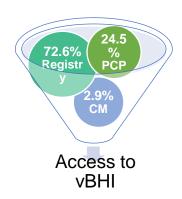
#### **Pharmacy**

Board Certified Psychiatric Pharmacist (BCPP)



## Virtual Behavioral Health Integration: Current State

### **Entry Point**



#### 54 clinics, Supporting 311 providers

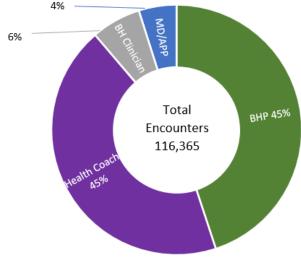
**Atrium Health clinics**: 50 total clinics; supporting 279 Providers (not including residents)

- 38 Family Medicine/Internal Medicine
- 7 Pediatric Clinics
- 5 Specialty Clinics
  - 2 OBGYN
  - 1 Ortho Outpatient Surgery
  - 1 Onsite Clinic
- COVID Virtual Hospital
- Care Management Clinics

Navicent Health: 4 clinics; 32 Providers

### **vBHI** by the Numbers (2020)

#### TEAMMATE INTERVENTIONS

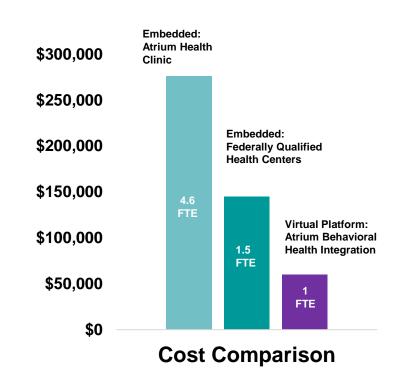


19,992 Unique Patients 116,365 Patient Encounters 1,767 Patients Active Patients

#### Teammates FTE

- BHP 14
- BHC 3.94
- HC 14
- Pharmacist 0.01
- MD/APP 1

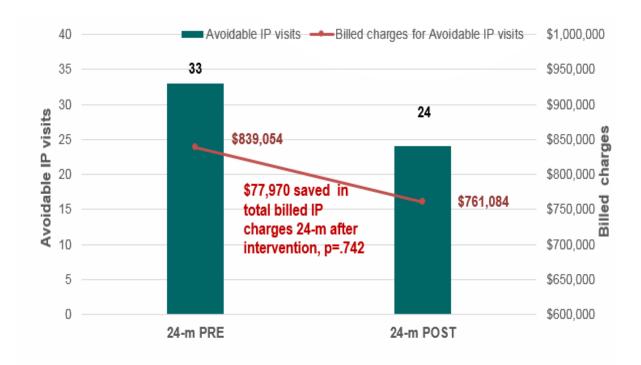
### Sustainability

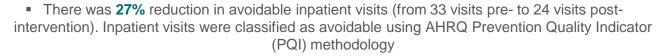


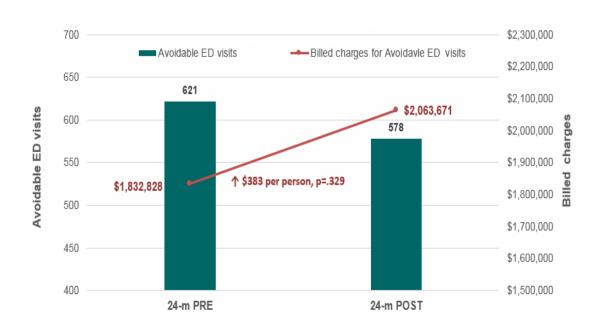
Burke et al.; BMC Health Services Research 2013, 13:245



# Avoidable Inpatient Care and ED Visits







- There was 7% reduction in avoidable ED visits (from 621 visits pre- to 578 visits post-intervention, p=.883)
- Visits were classified as avoidable using NYU ED Algorithm (types of avoidable visits included: Non Emergent, Emergent but PCP Treatable and Emergent but preventable)



### **OUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE SOLUTION**

Since 2014, Atrium Health's BHI program has reached:

70K+

patients



50+

of 300 physician practices

In 2020, patients who completed our BHI program reported significant mental health improvements:



88%

reported a cessation of suicidal thoughts



**58%** 

showed reduced depression scores



64%

showed reduced anxiety scores

